

Clinic closes

The Health Clinic will be closed July 5 July and will not operate a holiday clinic. Patients needing medical care can visit the Baumholder Krankenhaus for their urgent care.

The clinic will realign its operating hours starting July 1. New operating hours will be 8:30 a.m. – 5:30 p.m. Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays; 1 to 7 p.m. Thursdays and 8:30 a.m. – 3 p.m. Fridays.

The change will bring the clinic closer to other services and provide later afternoon appointments to the community.

Newcomer's brief

If you are new to the Baumholder community, come to the Newcomer's Orientation and Welcome. This is an opportunity to learn German customs, make new friends and learn more about your new home. Free childcare is available for registered participants during orientation. Contact the NOW program for more information at mil 485-8188 or civ 06783-6-8188.

Consumer help

Baumholder Army Community Service Financial Readiness Program can assist authorized military community members in handling consumer complaints. This program is the military answer to the Better Business Bureau. For more information contact the Baumholder ACS Financial Readiness Program at mil 485-8188.

Job market

The local job market orientation class provides valuable insights to the employment opportunities in the Baumholder community and its surrounding area.

Participants receive information concerning military spouse preference, defining federal and private sector opportunities and application procedures, basic Resumix start-up information and volunteer opportunities. Classes are held on every second and fourth Wednesday of the month from 9-10:30 a.m. For more information concerning this class and other resources the Employment Readiness Office can offer call mil 485-8188 or civ (06783) 6-8188.

Post notes



Happy birthday

By Ignacio "Iggy" Rubalcava

As the youngest and oldest members of the 222nd Base Support Battalion present at the time, Spec. Luis Miranda, 222nd BSB commander's driver and Command Sgt. Major Jose Fontanez, 222nd BSB command sergeant major, do the cake cutting honors in commemoration of the Army's 227th birthday. Sgt. Jason Poulin, right, led the group that gathered in a rendition of the Army Song. In a unique twist to the event, the 222nd BSB was on the receiving end of the support mission as the DIVARTY dining facility provided the 222nd BSB with its birthday cake.

MWR job fair

Opportunity awaits you at the Morale, Welfare and Recreation Job Fair, the second Wednesday of every month at the Baumholder Rod and Gun Club. Doors open at 9 a.m. Persons can obtain information about MWR positions, have an opportunity to fill out applications and receive interviews on-site. For more information call mil 485-1550.

Love of golf

Don't miss this year's Summer Open Golf Tournament on July 20 at Rolling Hills Golf Course in Baumholder. Entry fee is \$25. Non-members must pay green fees. Sign up at the Pro Shop by July 17.

Baumholder open

Rolling Hills Golf Course in Baumholder will hold its Baumholder Open July 28 beginning at 9 a.m. in a Stableford format. For more information call the Pro Shop at mil 485-6172.

2002 championship

Rolling Hills Golf course will hold the 2002 Club Championship Aug. 17-18 starting at 9 a.m. Sign up with the Pro Shop by Aug. 14. The \$40 entry fee includes food and prizes. Non-members pay green fees. Call the Rolling Hills Golf Course Pro Shop at mil 485-6172 for more.

Unit level golf pass

Rolling Hills Golf Course offers a Unit Level Golf Pass for \$400. The pass includes one annual golf pass, one set of rental clubs and one driving range token for the bearer of the pass. This is a perfect reward for Soldier of the Month or simply to have available to sign out.

Evening scramble

Come out ready to play golf. Every Thursday night through Sept. 20, Rolling Hills Golf Course in

Baumholder offers a Thursday night scramble. Sign up from 3-5:30 p.m. and tee-off at 6 p.m. sharp. The \$10 entry fee pays for food, drink and prizes. A minimum of 16 people are needed to play. For more information call 485-7299.

Junior golf clinic

A German/American junior golf clinic will be offered every Tuesday from 4-6 p.m., July 9 through Aug. 13 at the Rolling Hills Golf Course. The Rolling Hills Junior Golf Championship will be Aug. 13. Children ages 7 to 18 will be placed in beginner or intermediate groups to learn or improve their swing, putting, chipping, pitching, and golf etiquette. The cost is \$75 per child. There is a maximum of twenty participants. Sign up in the Rolling Hills Pro Shop.

Position available

A computer lab instructor is needed for Baumholder Child and Youth Services. This contract position provides assistance and technical guidance to students enrolled in Youth Services. The position requires either applied knowledge

of Microsoft Windows, Novell Networks, networking concepts and Microsoft Windows based applications, or be a certified Novell administrator. For more information, contact Baumholder Youth Services at mil 485-7276.

Cart racing

Have a blast at the indoor cart racing track in Kirm. Baumholder Outdoor Recreation visits the track every Wednesday from 6-11 p.m. The cost is \$19 for adults. There may be additional costs at the track.

Fitness passes

The Baumholder Fitness Center offers daily, monthly and quarterly passes. Passes for individuals or a family of four to the fitness center are available. Thirty-day fitness and pool combo passes are also available. For more information call mil 485-6156.

Teen shopping

Get out of the house and have a good time on the Baumholder Youth Services teen shopping trip to downtown Saarbrücken July 9. The bus departs the Underground at 10 a.m. Cost is \$3 plus spending money and signed permission slips and fees must be turned in one week in advance. For more information call Youth Services at mil 485-7276.

Teen trip

Baumholder Child and Youth Services has scheduled a trip to Europa Park, the biggest amusement park in Germany. The bus departs the Underground July 20 at 6 a.m. and the cost is \$25 plus spending money. This trip is for students 7th-12th grade. Sign up by July 11. For more information call the mil 485-7276.

Enroll for fall sports

Fall sports registration with Baumholder Child and Youth Services is July 1-31. Sports include soccer (ages 5 to high school senior); cheerleading (ages 5 to high school senior); flag football (ages 9-10, 11-12, 13-15); and tackle football (ages 12-14, weight 110-155 lbs). The cost to enroll is \$25 for the first child and \$20 for each additional child. Tackle football costs \$50. Sports physicals must be turned in at the time of registration or payment.

Camping, rafting

Baumholder Youth Services has scheduled a camping out and white-water rafting trip to Garmisch for teens 13 to 18 years old. Trip dates are July 12 through 14 with a 9 a.m. departure time from the Underground. The cost is \$30 and includes breakfast and barbeque dinners. Sign up by June 28 because space is limited. For details call Youth Services at mil 485-7276.

Spotlight on workforce

Carpenter says 'we do it all'

By Ignacio "Iggy" Rubalcava

222nd Base Support Battalion
Public Affairs Office

Patrick Pickard worked for the Saar construction company in Heimbach for 12 years before landing a job with the U.S. military at Baumholder.

"The reason I left Heimbach is that the boss was a bit old and his children showed little interest in the business. You could easily foresee what was going to happen to the business once the old boss retired," said Pickard.

The 29-year-old carpenter started working for the U.S. Army on Sept. 1, 2000. "It's great work, prima," he said.

He found work with the U.S. Army through a friend of his who was employed with the military. His friend told him of an opening for a carpenter and he applied.

"We do a variety of things here. In another company it would be a little more specialized. One company would just do furniture while another would do doors, for example.

"There is a difference between a construction carpenter and a furniture carpenter but here we do it all direct, all at one time," he said.

He added that it's fun working for the Americans. "I would personally like to learn English a little more so I can speak with the people better and understand any problems they may have. Most of the work people request we understand, though, except for specialized



Photo by Ignacio "Iggy" Rubalcava

Patrick Pickard checks the level of a doorway under construction at the 222nd Base Support Battalion headquarters building.

things.

"Okay," he said. "We often know the problem, for example, window blinds in an apartment. We can look and see what needs to be repaired and easily fix it."

Like a colleague of his that was previously featured in the Herald Union, language is not a barrier

when working with the Americans. There are always other employees in his shop who speak English well. These employees are usually the job estimators who visit the site and note all the work that needs to be done.

Pickard and his wife Christina are residents of Heimbach

Units now sponsoring local neighborhoods

By Ignacio "Iggy" Rubalcava

222nd Base Support Battalion
Public Affairs Office

A new sponsorship program will provide valuable information to family members when a spouse is deployed or away from home. Much like the sponsorship program that already exists between the schools and military units, the new Neighborhood Sponsorship Program will assign units as sponsors for Baumholder's housing areas. The neighborhood sponsor unit will be a focal point for family members to go to for guidance or assistance.

"The program starts June 25," said Jose Fontanez, 222nd Base Support Battalion command sergeant major. "Since we have a lot of deployments, family members often need help in getting something done. The sponsor unit will be there to point families in the right direction," said Fontanez. If the units are gone, the family readiness liaison will be available for family members to go to. "FRLs do not deploy," said Fontanez.

Every family member has received a letter in their mailbox explaining the program so residents can refer to it for a complete explanation of this new initiative. Signs have been placed at neighborhood entrances to let residents know who their sponsoring unit is.

This new program is not intended to be a taxi service or yard maintenance service. If family members need a ride to the commissary or to mow their lawn, or other similar

issues, the units will not provide these services. "This new program is intended to point family members in the right direction when they need help," said Fontanez. It is possible that the units may know how a family member may find a ride or know who to call to provide maintenance in the home. "In this case, the sponsoring unit will 'point' the family members in the right direction to resolve an issue. That is the intent of this program," said Fontanez. "They are there in case a unit deploys and the spouse remaining behind doesn't know how to get something done," he said.

"Soldiers are frequently told where they should go and what they should do to get things done but a lot of family members don't. But let's face it, we have a bad habit of not telling our family members what to do. So these sponsors will be there to let family members know what direction they should take when they need help," said Fontanez.

The other side of the program provides an additional set of eyes in the community that help the 222nd Base Support Battalion accomplish its support mission. "When the units are not deployed, the sergeant majors can drive through the neighborhoods and make sure everything looks nice and is well maintained. It's just like a supplemental force. They go out and they help us out, making sure that the area looks good, that it's maintained, that the families have a good environment to live in," said Fontanez.

PX looks at customer satisfaction

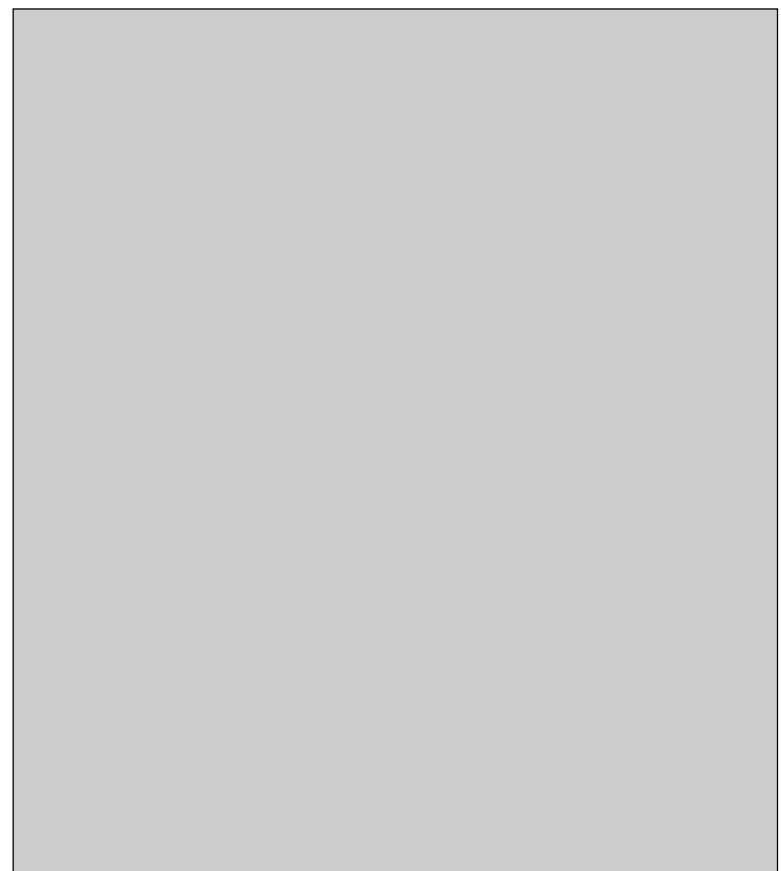
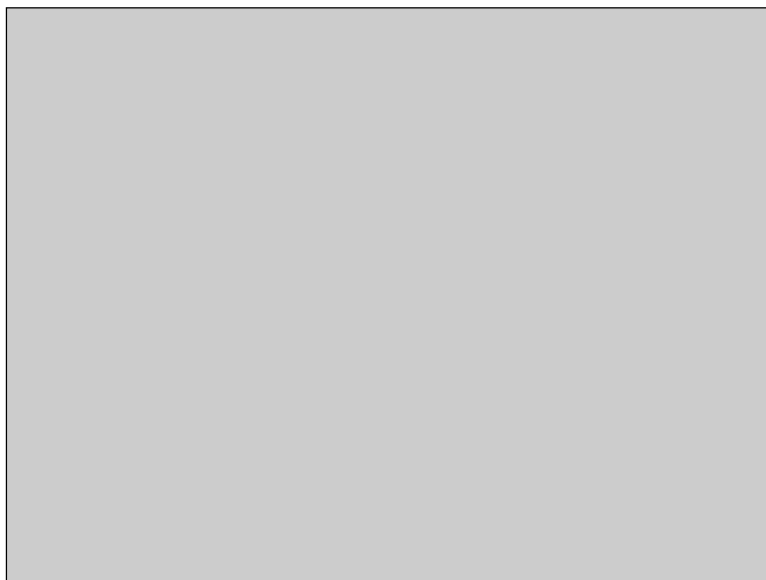
In a continuing effort to improve customer service and to ensure customer expectations are being met, the Army and Air Force Exchange Service will be conducting a Customer Satisfaction Index survey at the Baumholder main exchange June 25 through 30.

Since 1996, customers have filled out CSI surveys at AAFES main stores throughout the world. These surveys measure customer satisfaction in several areas, including customer service, pricing, associate availability and friendliness, and merchandise selection and availability. An independent research organization collects and analyzes the survey results, and then compares local BX/PX stores with each other and with other discount department stores in the United States.

"As customers complete their

survey they should turn them in at the designated collection point in the store, or mail them using the self-addressed, postage-paid envelope

that's provided," said Bob White, general manager of the Kaiserslautern consolidated exchange.



222nd BSB – Baumholder, Neubrücke, Strassburg

BSB commander receives real heavyweight visitor

By Ignacio “Iggy” Rubalcava
222nd Base Support Battalion
Public Affairs Office

A real heavyweight VIP (Very Important Pachyderm) dropped in at the 222nd Base Support Battalion Headquarters June 6 for an office call with Lt. Col. Eric Wagenaar, 222nd BSB commander. The commander was delayed a couple of minutes but the visitor, who had a scheduled appointment with the commander, was not the least annoyed.

The visitor took that opportunity to graze on the luscious grass growing outside the headquarters building. When Wagenaar stepped outside the VIP extended a gray, leathery, friendly trunk in salutation and the commander offered his guest a ripe red apple. The VIP then turned and continued grazing on the greenery and then walked

across the street and started feeding on the low hanging branches of the trees surrounding the post flag pole. Shenka, the commander’s guest, is actually a full-grown Indian elephant and the star attraction for Circus Alberti, which was performing in Baumholder.

The commander also presented Shenka’s handler with a battalion coin and thanked him and his assistants for a most unique office call.

Shenka was then led through the post exchange parking lot as cars and people halted in their tracks at the site of an elephant roaming the parking lot. Shenka then hung out in front of the post exchange for a few minutes, providing curious onlookers the opportunity to get a closer look as circus employees distributed discount passes to the crowd that gathered.

A variety of visitors have paraded in and out of the 222nd BSB

commander’s office in the past two years and Wagenaar has made everyone of them feel welcome. Guests have ranged from local politicians to Fasching royalty but this is the first time he’s greeted a real heavyweight entertainer.

“One can never be over prepared,” said Wagenaar. “We’ll have to modify our guest greeting procedures and include hay, apples and a water buffalo on the list of food and beverages that may be offered to visiting dignitaries.”

Wagenaar will soon leave Baumholder for his new assignment with the G-3 staff at V Corps Headquarters in Heidelberg. Lt. Col. Todd Buchs will take command of the 222nd BSB in a change of command ceremony June 19. Buchs comes to Baumholder from an assignment with the Program, Analysis, and Evaluation Directorate in the Office of the Army Chief of Staff.



Photo by Ignacio “Iggy” Rubalcava
Lt. Col. Eric Wagenaar, 222nd Base Support Battalion commander, offers an apple to Shenka, the star attraction of Circus Alberti, who dropped in for an office call with the commander.

Brigade DEFAC vies for USAREUR title



Sgt. Richard Herod, left and CW5 John Shepard check food temperature while Sgt. John Oglesby reviews menu paperwork.



CW5 John Shepard watches as Spec. Jason Sanders chops up cucumbers for a salad while Spec. Mario Martinez makes additional salad preparations.



A soldier enjoys his meal while Sgt. John Oglesby listens to CW5 John Shepard's outbrief comments.

**Story and photos by
Ignacio "Iggy" Rubalcava**
*222nd Base Support Battalion
Public Affairs Office*

It was business as usual for food service soldiers and dining facility attendants from the 2nd Brigade Dining Facility on June 7 when U.S. Army Europe food service inspectors showed up to poke their potatoes, hover over the hot rolls, survey the serving line, peruse the pastry, contemplate the condiments and pore over the paperwork.

Master Sgt. Jocelin Thomas, a USAREUR food service inspector, reviewed the facility's administrative side while CW5 John Shepard got up close and personal with the facility managers, cooks and dining facility attendants.

Back in late February the dining facility was closely scrutinized by 5th Corps food service inspectors as part of the Philip A. Connelly Dining Facility competition. When it was all over, the facility finished

with runner-up honors and now, USAREUR was here to give the facility yet another shakedown for a chance to compete at the Department of the Army level Philip A. Connelly program.

"The Connelly program is an important program in food service to give recognition to the food service program, to the food service soldiers and dining facility attendants," said Shepard.

After closely examining everything from food preparation and serving, to customer satisfaction and facility cleanliness, Shepard gathered the crew to pass on some of his observations. Since the results of the USAREUR level Connelly competition will not be announced until July, he avoided any comments suggesting a performance rating and instead delivered pep talk style comments that commended the dining facility crew.

"It's great for us to come out and see great things. I've been in this

business for a long time — 33 years now in food service. I'm doing it because I enjoy it. I really do get energized when I come out to dining facilities like this and see all sorts of good things going on," he said.

Before continuing with his comments, Shepard took some time to recognize some very essential members of the dining facility.

"The unsung heroes of most dining facilities are the dining facility attendants," he said.

"They're tasked heavily just like us food service workers. I'm telling you they got a tough job. I think you're authorized eight per shift and from what I was told, the most you have is six on one shift. That makes it tough to keep this building clean, but they do a super job.

"They are the base upon which any dining facility builds and grows on. Without them of course we wouldn't have the pots and pans we need. The dining area wouldn't

be clean. We wouldn't have any tables to sit at or utensils for the diners. So, great job. The sanitation of this facility is number one," he said.

The results of this USAREUR level Connelly competition will be announced in the beginning of July.

"When we announce it we announce only first place and runners up. Notice one word I didn't use, winner, because at this level you're already winners," said Shepard.

Only 11 garrison dining facilities out of 52 compete at the USAREUR level. "That's one fifth, that's the top 20 percent that you're already in," he said.

"The Connelly is a state of mind. It is a state that you're supposed to be at on a day-to-day basis. And you are there. I'm not saying there aren't some refinements and challenges to overcome. At our level and even at the DA level there isn't any facility that doesn't have some challenges or something that could

use some improvement. But you are there," said Shepard.

The two biggest areas of the Connelly award program are food preparation and serving, and customer acceptability. "Those account for something like 30 percent and 20 percent of the evaluation. It's all about keeping the customers happy. I couldn't believe how many soldiers magically appeared to eat here," he said. Other areas covered by the Connelly include sanitation and administration.

"Some of you might know CW4 Mike Bradick, a good friend of mine who just retired. He always said, 'food service is in here,'" said Shepard while placing his right hand on his heart. "You gotta' have it in here and it's obvious that you do," he said. When Shepard opened the floor for comments, one food service soldier summed up everyone's attitude and confidence in the quality of their service by dauntlessly proclaiming "See you in July."